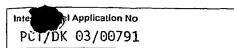
A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 A6188/12 A61M5/00 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) A61B A61M A61F IPC 7 Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, BIOSIS C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. 1-3,7-9 ÈP 0 075 735 A (KUHL ADOLF DR MED) Χ 6 April 1983 (1983-04-06) column 6, line 5 - line 25; figure 2 abstract 4-6 Α 4-6 US 2002/035389 A1 (PINCHASIK GREGORY ET AL) 21 March 2002 (2002-03-21) page 1, paragraph 6 page 4, paragraph 86 figures 2,3 1-9 US 5 573 007 A (BOBO SR DONALD E) A 12 November 1996 (1996-11-12) abstract column 2, line 56 -column 3, line 9 column 3, line 28 - line 34 column 4, line 31 - line 42 Patent family members are listed in annex. Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the investigation. "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of mailing of the international search report Date of the actual completion of the international search 2 1 APR. 2004 .24 March 2004 Authorized officer Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rljswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016 ANNA MALMBERG/MN



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